

Further, the Examiner objected to claim 13 due to the informalities. See Office Action of January 29, 2003, p. 2, ll. 7-9. To overcome that objection, Applicants amend claim 13 to change its dependency from claim 1 to claim 2.

Claims 5 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, "as containing subject matter, which was not described in the specification." Applicants respectfully disagree and submit that the specification contains subject matter claimed in claims 5 and 6 in the following exemplary portions: p. 6, ll. 23 -28, p. 8, l. 34 to p. 9, l.1, p. 9, ll. 7 to 11, 12-18, and 18-27, and p. 15, ll. 18-24. Therefore, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph must be withdrawn.

In making the various references to the specification set forth herein, it is to be understood that Applicants are in no way intending to limit the scope of the claims to the exemplary embodiments shown in the drawings and described in the specification. Rather, Applicants expressly affirm that they are entitled to have the claims interpreted broadly, to the maximum extent permitted by statute, regulation and applicable case law.

Claims 4-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, "as being indefinite, for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention." In response, Applicants amend claim 4. As a result, claim 4 fully complies with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph and thus, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph should be withdrawn.

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Contrary to the Examiner's assertion that claims 5 and 6 depend on claim 4, claim 5 depends from definite claim 3, and claim 6 depends from definite claim 5. Thus, the rejections of claims 5 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph are improper and must be withdrawn.

Claims 1-6, 9-11, and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,663,743 to *Fujii et al.* in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,956,661 to *Sakamoto et al.* Claims 7, 8, and 14-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over *Fujii* and *Sakamoto*, as applied to claim 1, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,121,943 to *Nishioka et al.* Claim 12 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over *Fujii* and *Sakamoto*, as applied to claim 1, and further in view of *The Electrical Engineering Handbook*, CRC Press, 1993. Claims 13 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over *Fujii* and *Sakamoto*, as applied to claim 1, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,473,289 to *Ishizaki et al.* Claim 16 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over *Fujii* and *Sakamoto*, as applied to claim 2, and further in view of *The Electrical Engineering Handbook*, CRC Press, 1993.

Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's arguments and conclusions and respectfully traverse the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejections for the following reasons.

A *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been made, since the Examiner does not show that all the elements of Applicants' claims are met in the cited references, and does not show that there is any suggestion or motivation to modify the cited references

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to result in the claimed invention nor a reasonable expectation of success in doing so. To properly establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), the Examiner must demonstrate that all claim elements are taught or suggested in the references relied on by the Office, and there is a suggestion or motivation to modify the references to result in the claimed invention, and that there is a reasonable expectation of success in doing so.

Independent claim 1 is directed to a power supply circuit, which includes, *inter alia*, "a scan driver power circuit for supplying a scan driver voltage to a scan driver for scanning a liquid crystal display device, and which has a data driver power circuit for supplying a data driver voltage to a data driver for sending display data to said liquid crystal display device, comprising: a brightness control circuit ...; a voltage regulation circuit...; and a temperature compensation circuit."

Indeed, contrary to the Examiner's allegation, neither *Fujii* nor *Sakamoto* teaches or suggests at least a power supply circuit comprising a brightness control circuit, a voltage regulation circuit; and a temperature compensation circuit. *Fujii* discloses a brightness control circuit. *Fujii*, however, teaches transistor a Tr, which has a function of "controlling contrast" (see col. 6, ll. 6-11), not brightness, as recited in claim 1 of Applicants' invention.

Furthermore, the Examiner admits that *Fujii* does not teach a voltage regulation circuit and a temperature compensation circuit. See Office Action dated January 29, 2003, p. 5, l. 6. Combining *Sakamoto* with *Fujii* does not overcome this deficiency.

As to the Examiner's assertion with respect to the voltage regulation circuit, "nearly identical" language used to assert obviousness (see Office Action of January 29, 2003, p. 16, ll. 12-14) is not sufficient to overcome the burden of proof imposed by the *prima facie* case requirement.

Finally, the Examiner failed to show that at least one of the cited references provides a suggestion or motivation to combine their disclosures to arrive at the instant invention. Moreover, *Sakamoto* is not even directed at a power supply circuit for scanning a liquid crystal display device, while the present invention does.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit, the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is improper and must be withdrawn.

Claims 2-16 and 18 each ultimately depend from claim 1 and include all the elements thereof. Therefore, claims 2-16 and 18 are also allowable at least based on such dependency and for at least the same reasons discussed above with respect to allowable claim 1.

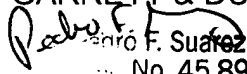
In addition, Applicants respectfully submit that it is improper for the Examiner to interpret the specification of the current invention in view of the references. More specifically, the Examiner attempts to interpret the specification of the present invention in view of *Sakamoto* at least on p. 4, ll. 18-21 and on p. 16, ll. 11-12 of the Office Action dated January 29, 2002. The Examiner also attempts to interpret the specification of the present invention in view of *Fujii* at least on p. 6, ll. 17-19 and p. 16, ll. 1-2 of the Office Action dated January 29, 2002.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request the reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.


Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: May 29, 2003

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**APPENDIX TO AMENDMENT OF MAY 29, 2003**  
VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Please amend claims 4, 12 and 13 as follows:

4. (Twice Amended) The power supply circuit according to claim 3, wherein said series-connected diodes [each have] comprises a cathode terminal connected to said control terminal of said amplifying element and an anode terminal connected to the ground respectively.
12. (Amended) The power supply circuit according to claim [1] 2, wherein said amplifying elements are MOS transistors.
13. (Amended) The power supply circuit according to claim [1] 2, wherein said amplifying elements are operational amplifiers.